

ELLESMORE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1944.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1944. The Minister of Health has directed that the report be prepared on the lines of that for 1943 so it will not assume its pre-war comprehensiveness.

Restrictions previously imposed on the publication of population figures and some other matters have now been removed.

The report includes notes by the Sanitary Inspector on matters with which he is most particularly concerned, for his co-operation and help during the year I wish to express my thanks.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

L. WILSON EVANS.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Name	Qualifications.	Office held.	Whole or Part time.
L. Wilson Evans.	M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.	Part Time.
W.H. Davis	M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.	Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.	Whole.



EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Population (estimated)

1910

	M.	F.	Total.	
Live Births	24	16	40	
Birth Rate per 1000 population			20.9	
Birth Rate England and Wales			17.6	
Still Births			Nil	
	M.	F.		Total.
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.	1.	1.		2.
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 births.			50	
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 births England and Wales			46	
	M.	F.		Total.
Deaths	15	8		23
Death Rate per 1000 population			11.0	
England and Wales			11.6	

Chief Causes of Death.

	M.	F.
Heart Disease	4	3
Cancer	1	1
Bronchitis	2	0
Pneumonia	1	0
Appendicitis	1	0
Road Traffic Accident	1	0
Other diseases of Circulatory System	1	0

There were no deaths from Infectious Diseases or Diarrhoea.

There were no maternal deaths.

The State of health of the Town as indicated by the above figures is in all respects satisfactory. The birth rate which continues at a high figure shows a slight increase on last year. There was a decrease in the death rate. There were nine fewer deaths. The natural increase in population is seventeen. One more baby died last year than the previous, but this is balanced by there being no still births. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, and there was one fewer death from cancer.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.Notification of Infectious Disease.

Measles 4. Pneumonia 1. Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1. Whooping Cough 4.

Age.	Measles.		Pneumonia		Whooping Cough.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-3	-	-	-	-	-	1
3-5	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	1	2	-	-	-	3
10-15	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	-	1	-	-	-	-
25-45	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65.	-	-	-	1	-	-
Total	1	3	-	1	-	4

-2-

-3-

As will be seen from the figures it was a very favourable year for Infectious Disease. No cases of Diphtheria was notified for the fourth consecutive year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

	Under 5.	5-15 years.
Number of children immunised during the year.	33	12
Percentage of child population considered to be immunised at December 31st, 1944.	56%	95%

The percentage of children immunised over the age of 5 years is excellent, but the progress among the children under 5 years is slow. The reason may be that the children over 5 years come under the influence of the teachers, who convinced of the value of this protective measure against Diphtheria have done much good work in conveying their conviction to parents and pupils.

No such strong influence is at work in the case of the younger children, although a proportion of them attend the Welfare Centre and homes are visited by the health visitors where there are opportunities for stressing the particular importance of the protection of the younger children against a very serious disease.

Scabies.

No cases of Scabies were reported during the year.

Water.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. The water is distributed as a piped supply throughout the district and is obtained from the Liverpool Corporation. About 99% of the houses and population have a direct supply to the houses, the remaining 1% are supplied by standpipe.

Housing.

In common with the rest of the Country the Council is faced with the problem of providing houses, which has arisen through the cessation of building during the past 6 years. Accommodation is urgently required for families who have never had a home of their own and are now living in rooms or sharing a house with relatives, often under conditions of discomfort and overcrowding.

Progress has been made in acquiring land and preparing plans.

The Ministry of Health is prepared to give permission to Local Authorities to ask for tenders when sites are ready, so it is hoped



that before long erection of the twenty houses in the first year's programme will have started.

Scavenging.

Complaints have been received from time to time concerning the tip. These have been chiefly due to lack of adequate covering and proper layering resulting from insufficient labour and the unauthorised depositing of refuse about the tip. If nuisances from rats, flies or smells are to be avoided a better system of tipping will have to be adopted.

	Tuberculosis.				Respiratory. To Sanatorium. Non-respiratory.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
New cases.	..	..	-	-	1	-		
Transferred from other districts.	..	2	-	1	1	1		
Deaths		Nil.						

There were no new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Cases on Register at end of 1944.			
Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
M.	F.	M.	F.
3	4	6	5

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Meat Inspections.

Ellesmere Smithfield Meat Allocation Centre.

The total number of carcase inspections made during the year were:-

Bovine carcases.....	230
Calf Carcases.....	76
Sheep carcases.....	879
Pig carcases.....	13
Total	1,198

Number of visits 51.

Each carcase was accompanied by edible offals. No cause for complaint was found in either the fitness of the meat for human consumption, or in its preparation.

Whitchurch Scotland Road (Casualty) Depot.

Total number of visits.....	30.
Carcasses examined immediately after slaughter:-	
Bovines.....	71.
Calves.....	22.
Sheep.....	14.
Pigs.....	12.
Total.....	119



Whitchurch Liverpool Road Abattoir.

Total number of visits..... 44

Carcasses examined at time of slaughter:-

Bovines.....	383
Calves.....	264
Sheep.....	751
Pig.....	7

Total.... 1,305

The total examinations of carcases at the three centres were:-

Ellesmere Smithfield Allocation Centre.....	1198
Whitchurch Liverpool Road Abattoir.....	1305
Whitchurch Scotland Road Abattoir.....	119
	<u>2622</u>

Total number of visits..... 125

Carcase Condemnations.

Whole carcases and all offals:-

Whitchurch Road Abattoir:-

Bovines.....	8
Calves.....	1
Pigs.....	2

Scotland Road Casualty Abattoir:-

Bovines.....	25
Calves.....	10
Sheep.....	4

Total. 50

Part Carcase, Organs and/or offals:-

Whitchurch Liverpool Road Abattoir:-

	Heads:	Lungs:	Livers:	Miscellaneous:
Bovine	24	57	43	15
Sheep	0	0	0	1
Pigs	0	1	1	1
Scotland Road (Casualty) Abattoir:-				
Bovine	2	6	7	14
Calf	0	0	0	1
Totals.	26	64	51	32 173

Diseases and unsound conditions met with were as follows:-

Tuberculosis, generalised and localised; Gangrene; Cirrhosis;

Oedema; Emaciation; Dystekia; Moribund; Atrophy; Angioma;

Pneumonia; Necrosis; Hydrenephrosis; Fractures; Cysts and Abscesses.

In reading the foregoing figures, regard to the high proportion of condemnations at the Scotland Road Depot must be had to the fact that this depot is used for the slaughter of ungraded stock, and of animals brought in for slaughter under the Tuberculosis Orders.

Many are diseased on arrival, or injured, or in a very doubtful state of health such as would lead to rejection by the graders.



Water Supply:-

No change since last year. The supply to the U.S. Military Hospital at Oteley is still maintained.

Sewage Works:-

No change during last year. The disposal of sewage received from the U.S. Military Hospital at Oteley is still maintained. There was one closet conversion from a privy to a water closet during the year.

Housing:-

Inspections during the year numbered 41. In most cases minor repairs were effected, but repair work of a more serious and expensive character was necessarily restricted due to war conditions as labour shortage, material shortage, and licensing restrictions, and much of this work will remain in abeyance until the advent of more favourable conditions.

Vermin:-

There is no known serious infestation by vermin in the district, and the following steps are taken immediately the need arises.

Bugs:-

Sealing of infested room, bedding and furniture, and fumigation with Thermatox fumigators. Tenants are advised to keep observation for at least a month afterwards and to report any further appearance of the pest at once.

Fleas:- These are dealt with as above.

Rats:-

The methods used for the destruction of these pests are gassing in suitable cases with Cymag, use of poison baits with suitable safe guards against accident by adopting means of preventing access by unauthorised persons or other animals or livestock; trapping. Householders are advised on destructive methods to adopt, and poison baiting boxes are loaned out when deemed advisable by the Sanitary Inspector. Poison baiting of sewers is carried out by the Council staff.

